

MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDMENTS

IN RE APPLICATION OF

HIROSHI IKEDA ET AL

: EXAMINER: VANOY, T.

SERIAL NO: 09/463,961

:

FILED: MAY 25, 2000

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1754

FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS  
FOR PROCESSING EXHAUST  
GAS OF SEMICONDUCTOR  
FABRICATION

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated June 19, 2001, the period for response having been extended to October 19, 2001, by a petition for extension of time filed herewith, please amend the application identified above as follows (marked-up copy of amendments attached):

|                       |
|-----------------------|
| Marked-Up Copy        |
| Serial No: 09/463,961 |
| Amendment Filed on:   |
| October 1, 2001       |

IN THE TITLE

Please replace the title with the following title:

--PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING SEMICONDUCTOR  
PRODUCTION EXHAUST GASES--.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title, please insert the continuing data:

--This application is a 371 of PCT/JP98/04666 filed October 15, 1998.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 6 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Please amend Claims 1-4 and 8 as follows:

1. (Amended) A process for treating exhaust gases, the process comprising  
a step of [equipped] providing an aeration stirring tank having a stirring device  
comprising a motor, a shaft rotatably connected to the motor, and a blade attached to the shaft  
[,];

a step of introducing exhaust gases into an aqueous alkaline liquid in [an] said  
aeration stirring tank while stirring the aqueous alkaline liquid [,]; and  
a step of further removing harmful gases from the gases discharged from the aeration  
stirring tank.

2. (Amended) [A] The process [for treating exhaust gases] according to Claim 1,  
wherein said [removal] step of further removing comprises a process of allowing the gases  
discharged from the aeration stirring tank to come into contact with an aqueous liquid.

3. (Amended) [A] The process [for treating exhaust gases] according to Claim 1,  
wherein said step of further removing [step] comprises a step of introducing the gases  
discharged from the aeration stirring tank into a packed column filled with an agent.

4. (Amended) [A] The process [for treating exhaust gases] according to Claim 1,  
wherein said [removing] step of further removing comprises a step of allowing the gases  
discharged from the aeration stirring tank to come into contact with an aqueous liquid, and a  
step of introducing the gases discharged from the aeration stirring tank into a packed column  
filled with an agent.

8. (Amended) An apparatus for treating exhaust gases, the apparatus comprising an aeration stirring tank for introducing exhaust gases into an aqueous alkaline liquid while stirring the aqueous alkaline liquid; and

at least one device selected from a gas-liquid contact device for allowing gases discharged from said aeration stirring device to come into contact with the aqueous liquid, and a packed column filled with an agent for passing gases discharged from said aeration stirring device; [characterized in that] wherein

said aeration stirring tank has a stirring device comprising a motor, a shaft rotatably connected to the motor, and a blade attached to the shaft.

Please add new Claims 9-10 as follows:

--9. (New) The process according to Claim 1, further comprising forming in the aeration stirring tank a foam comprising the exhaust gases and the aqueous alkaline liquid.

10. (New) The process according to Claim 9, further comprising stirring the foam with the blade.--

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the abstract with the attached abstract.